

REMARKS

Claims 18, 19, 20, 22 and 23 have been cancelled.

Claim 11 has been amended to require that from about 20 to about 65 parts by weight of amine-initiated polyol be included in the foam-forming reaction mixture. Support for this amendment is found in cancelled Claim 18 and at page 5, line 7 of the specification.

The present invention is directed to a process for the production of rigid polyurethane foams in which a blowing agent that includes cyclopentane and a C₃ and/or C₄ blowing agent is used and to the foams made by this process. The foam-forming reaction mixture includes from about 20-65 parts by weight of an aromatic amine-initiated polyol and a polyisocyanate.

The claims in the parent of this application directed to the subject matter of present Claims 11-15 and 21 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103 as being unpatentable over DeVos et al (U.S. Patent 5,444,101).

Applicants believe that present Claims 11-15 and 21 are patentable over the DeVos et al patent.

More specifically, DeVos et al does not disclose a foam-forming reaction mixture which must include from about 20 to about 65 parts by weight of an amine-initiated polyol as required in Applicants' presently claimed invention. In fact, DeVos et al teaches that any of the known polyols may be used in the practice of the reference process.

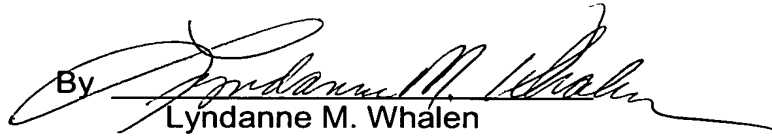
The significance of the amount of amine-initiated polyol used in the foam-forming reaction mixture is demonstrated in the enclosed Declaration Under 37 C.F.R. § 1.132 of Dr. Eisen in which it is shown that: (1) a foam-forming mixture which included only 15 parts by weight of aromatic amine-initiated polyol produced a foam with a thermal conductivity worse than that of a foam produced in accordance with the present invention; and (2) a foam-forming mixture which included 70 parts by weight of aromatic amine-initiated polyol produced a foam having a compressive strength inferior to that of a foam produced in accordance with the present invention.

Such differences in thermal conductivity and compressive strength could not have been predicted from the teachings of DeVos et al.

Applicants' invention as presently claimed is not therefore rendered obvious by the teachings of DeVos et al.

Consideration and allowance of Claims 11-15 and 21 are therefore respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

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VERSION WITH MARKINGS TO SHOW CHANGES MADE

IN THE CLAIMS:

Claims 18, 19, 20, 22 and 23 have been cancelled.

Claim 11 has been amended as follows:

11. (Amended) A process for the production of a rigid polyurethane foamed plastic comprising reacting

- a) from about [5] 20 to about [80] 65 parts by weight of an aromatic amine initiated polyol,
- b) a polyisocyanate,
- c) a blowing agent comprising
 - 1) from about 5 to about 50 parts by weight of a C₃ and/or C₄ alkane
 - and
 - 2) from about 50 to about 95 parts by weight of cyclopentane, and

optionally

- d) auxiliary additives.